G. R. S. 58]
*Previous references.*

14

Police File No. 28 — 01.

1902
~~1901~~

Serial Nos. 1–6, 10, 12 &c.

( Police )

*Later references.*
&c 7, 8, 9, 11 & 14 & 16.
Pol. 7. 2 – 02 — MB

# GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT.

*Serial Nos.*

major **Part B for** July 1902.

SUBJECT.

Mail Dacoity on the Kolar Bowringpet Road.

1. From the I. G. of Police No 277/17 dt - 13. 7. 01.
Dy No 575/963. Reports that a robbery of mail has been committed on 5. 7. 01. between Kolar & Bowringpet.
2. From — Do — — No 299/18 dt. 14/15. 7. 01.
Dy No 580/966. submits for orders his letter No 281/D dt. 14/15. 7. 01 to the Dy Commr. Kolar District, regarding certain dacoities in that district.
3. From — — Do — GPB—3,500—21-7-1[illegible] No 449/34 dt - 19/20. 7. 01.
Dy No 969/996 Reports, in confirmation of SI's that three postal bags by a train on

From the I. G. of Police no 132/64 dt. 3/1/8. 1901.
Dy no 1547/J168. Forwards copy of letter no 62 dt - 21. 7. 01. from the Secretary of Police N. G. 7. furnishing further particulars of the mail dacoity at Bowringpet.

From the 2. A. Resdt. no. 2276 dt. 26. 6. 02.
Dy no 13768/J1658. Forwards copy of letter no H. R. 1-96/30532 pol 1674. dt - 31. 3. 02. from the postmaster General Madras to the Resident regarding the mail dacoity referred to in 8/1. and states that Unless the liability of the Durbar to pay compensation under the mail robbery rules, is admitted the Resident may be favored with an explanation from the Durbar.

Do. The I. G. of Police no 1756/J1584 dt - 1. 5. 02.
Forwards copy of the above with copies of its enclosures, and requests to submit at an early date, a further detailed report on the dacoity referred to in 8/1-9. in another Collection of this file.

From the I. G. of Police no 33/3 dt - 2. 7. 02.
Dy no 115/J6. Submits a detailed report called for in 8/6. 11 in another collection.

Do. The 2. A. Resident. no 317/J68 dt - 15. 7. 02.
Points out the reasons, under which the Durbar are not liable to pay the compensation Claimed by the postal authorities, and states that at the time of the dacoity, there was a body of efficient policemen, Mounted with Lathis &c. and intimates the Durbar arrangements to

# Office Note

Subject :— Mail dacoity on the Kolar-Baoring pat Road

---

~~[illegible]~~. sl. 10

Last Reference :— Letter No. 33/3 dated 2nd July 1902 from the Offg. Inspector General of Police.

---

~~S.D.I~~ sl. 1

In his letter No. 277/17 dated the 13th July 1901, the Inspector General of Police reported that on the night of the 4th July 1901, the jutka in which the mail was being carried, was attacked by robbers on the highway from Baoringpat to Kolar between the 3rd + 4th mile

mile stones and again with his letter No. 752/64 dated the 31st July 1901 forwarded a copy of letter from the Superintendent of Police, Kolar Gold Fields, furnishing further details of the said dacoity. It was stated that all the mailbags were found except 3 unsmed articles valued at Rs 110 and that no trace of the robbers was found.

S. No 5

Accordingly a draft letter to First Assistant to the Resident was prepared by the office and submitted to Secretary, who called for precedents of such reports, if any. No precedents were available, as the rule to make reports was prescribed by the Residency Govt only in November 1900 (No. 7901-39 dt Mis 1708 dt 10 December 1900). The draft was thereupon ordered

S. No 6

It would perhaps be well to have made the report then & there to the Resident as being a matter of political importance, the Mysore Court being in the charge of the British Govt.

S No 1

to be filed

S No 7

Subsequently on the 24th April 1902, the First Assistant to the Resident forwarded a

S No 7/a

copy of letter No. 14-R. 1-96/70532 dated the 31st March 1901 from the Post Master General, Madras, reporting in the said dacoity and requested that unless the liability of the State to pay compensation under the Mail Robbery Rules was admitted, the Resident might be favoured with any explanation the Dunbar might see fit to make in regard to the amount claimed by the Postal Department, viz Rs 16 4-3-0, being the value of the mails lost in the robbery.

S No 7/c

He has further brought to the notice of the Dunbar the following points :—

6

(a) Report of the drivers that although there was a police out-post ¼ of a mile from the scene of the occurrence the Mysore Police there refused to render any assistance.

(b) Report of the Supdt. of Post offices, Bangalore Division regarding the arming of Police constables and Talayaries patrolling the Road

On this point, the Resident says that he is not prepared to admit that any sufficient reason has been shown for patrolling the road with armed police. He observes that had the State Police displayed even a small amount of energy, the dacoits who were apparently unarmed might have been traced at least even if not immediately captured.

(c) Non-report by the Durbar

of this occurrence, although it took place more than 9 months ago

Diwan's remarks on the above:-

Let me have all the records on this subject. Were there no cases like this before Call for a detailed report from the Inspector General of Police regarding the dacoity ate

(Intd) P.N.K.
25-IV-02.

Submitted with all the references together with a copy of the mail Robbery rules. The facts of the cases are fully given in letter No. 343 dated the 23rd June 1902 of the Superintendent of Police, copy of which is forwarded by the Inspector General with his letter under reference.

Neither the Inspector General

nor the Deputy Commissioner, Kolar, offers any opinion on the subject of the compensation claimed by the Post Master General.

The charge that the Mysore Police refused to render any assistance has not been answered. But it may be inferred from the Police Superintendent's letter referred to, that. ~~Police Constable (no 33) Viswanathan to inform~~ the charge is unfounded. Police Constable Viswanathan (No. 333) to whom the occurrence was first reported by the driver & 2 mahomedan passengers, at once sent one of his Police to Ankondahalli (close by) to bring help and proceeded to the Spot; but by the time persons from Ankondahalli & the Police Constable in question reached the place, the robbers are reported

to have made away with mail bags and property. The Supdt however observes that the Police Constable Viswanathan, though he had no fire arms with him, could have raised an alarm with his lorries and chased the robbers without waiting for help from the village, as the scene of the occurrence was very near his Godkad. (Paras 5 to 7 of the Supdt's Report)

To prevent the recurrence of dacoity in the said Road in future the Deputy Commissioner Kolar, suggests

that the mail lorry from Kolar to Bowringpet which now starts at 6.30 P.M should be made to start two hours earlier.

(2) that the police patrolling the road should be given

fire-arms; and

(3) that the Police Constable travelling in the Mail gutka should be armed with a musket with strict orders to use it when necessary.

The Inspector General says that it is within the power of the Deputy Commissioner himself to adopt the above measures and that he has informed him (Dy Comr) accordingly. But as regards the patrolling of the road by armed Police, the Resident is not satisfied as to the necessity therefor.

The report of the dacoity was not made to the Residency because ~~this was not believed to be the subject. There are no express rules~~ one of the matters in which reports should be made, ~~to the Residency~~ are specified in the F.A. Resident's letter dated the 1st November 1900.

As regards similar cases referred to by Dewan, there have been two cases of mail dacoity since 1892, one alleged to have been committed on the road to Holalkere Railway Station on the night of the 29th April 1892 and another on the Malur – Hosur Road on the night of the 15th June 1895. Papers connected with the above cases are put up. (vide files marked A and B). In the first case it was found out on enquiry that no dacoity was committed and ~~if there had been~~ that the mail Runners abstracted the valuable contents of the mail bags and raised a false alarm. In the second case there was only at best an attempt to commit

File marked A

Ditto E

17

commit dacoity. No property was lost and none were injured

The General Records state that there were no cases of mail dacoity before 1892

Subd for orders.

SN
7.7.02

I have put up for approval & sign of a letter to the D.A. Resident explaining the occurrence, disclaiming any liability on the part of this State to pay compensation to the Postal Dept, reciting the facts of the case, and stating the steps proposed to be taken to prevent similar occurrences in future.

I have also put up for approval, or other disposal, a draft order on the same subject. Para 3 of the D.A. Resident's letter 8/1.11.00, (noted on fl no. 1) requires that the orders passed should be communicated to the Resident. But as the steps being taken have been shown in the letter to Resident, perhaps it is unnecessary to send copy of the order?

Subd to the Dewan 8.7.02.

I think all the drafts put up

are Suitable and may be approve

Ind: LA. 9/7/02

3 Offs appd. . 11.7.02.

163 1

OFFICE OF THE 190 575 16.7.01 INSPECTOR GENERAL OF POLICE IN MYSORE.

From

THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
OF POLICE IN MYSORE.

To

THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVT. OF MYSORE,
GENERAL AND REVENUE DEPTS.

SECTION Police
FILE No. 14780 01-02
SERIAL No. 1

Dated 13
Despatched July 1901
Received
General No. 277
No. 13
Enclosure No. 1

Reporting that a robbery of mail had been committed on 5.7.01 between Kolar & Bowringpet

Further Report will be submitted by 17.7.01

MGCPE—5-3-01-1000

OFFICE OF THE

INSPECTOR GENERAL OF POLICE IN MYSORE.

No. 277/17 Dated... Bangalore 13 July 1901.

Enc. 1

From

THE INSPECTOR GENERAL OF POLICE IN MYSORE.

To

THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVT. OF MYSORE,
GENERAL AND REVENUE DEPARTMENTS.

Sir,

In his diary for the week ended Saturday the 6th July 1901 (received to-day) the Police Superintendent of the Kolar Gold Fields reports that on the night of the 4th July 1901 the jatka cart in which the mail was being carried, was attacked by robbers on the high way from Bowringpet to Kolar between the 3rd and 4th mile-stones within the limits of the Bowringpet Taluq.

24

It seems that "nearly all the mails and letters have been recovered together with some earrings and a small piece of gold." No clue as to the robbers has as yet been found - A special report of the occurrence should have been made for submission to Government. I have informed the Deputy-Commissioner accordingly. Nothing more is known of the matter. A copy of all that appears in the said diary is enclosed for information. Further reports will be made as the investigation proceeds.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant

[signature]

Offg. Inspector General of Police.

Enclosure 1 4

Extract from the diary of the Superintendent of Police of the Kolar Gold Fields for the week-ending 6-7-01

Friday 5th July 1901. I received a note from Bowringpet Inspector reporting that a robbery had been committed on the mail jutka last night between Kolar and Bowringpet. After arranging things at Ulsoor I rode over to Kamasamudram and inspected

I inspected some of the station records while waiting for the train to take me to Bowringpet. On arrival at Bowringpet I examined a couple of witnesses who were passengers in the mail train last night and then drove to the scene of crime (between 3d and 4th mile) with the Amildar. Returned, after giving instructions, to the field at 6 p. m.

(Sd) N. Macnwarring
Superintendent of Police

Copy
Offg. Inspector General of Police.

Deputy Commissioner's remark.

A serious case. I am glad to say nearly all the mails and letters have been recovered together with some earrings and a small piece of gold. No clue as to the robbers as yet.

(Sd) F. C. Carr.
11-7-01

Inspector General's remark.

I do not know why this robbery was not reported at once as required by Secs. 51 and 52 of the Police Rules.

(Sd) B. K. V
13.7.1901

OFFICE OF THE
580
16-7-01
DEWAN OF MYSORE
1900

1666

From The Superintendent of Police
in Mysore

To

THE SECY. TO THE GOVT. OF MYSORE,
GEN. & REV. DEPTS.

SECTION Police
FILE No. 14 & 15 of 01
SERIAL No. 2

Dated 14 - 7 - 01
Despatched 15
Received
General No. 297
No. 18

Enclosure No.

---

Forg copy of his letter to the Kolar Dy Comr regarding certain dacoities committed in that District

---

References to be marked.

Read
17/7

Submitted to Secy
Mysore Gles & Pol Jl
17/7/01

No 281/8

Office of the Inspector General of Police, in Mysore

Bangalore, July 14/15

To

The Deputy Commissioner of the Kolar District.

Sir,

I beg to bring to your notice that 3 dacoities have been committed in the Boorngpet Taluk within the past few days viz:- one on the night of the 8th June 1901 on the high road between the Kolar Gold fields and Boorngpet, one a party of persons [redacted] travelling in a Jatka, who were all-kicked and robbed; another in the village of Mudakpalla

on the Bowringpēth Jaffna-Kōt the night of the 2d June 1901, when 3 houses were broken into, the inmates ill-treated and robbed by about 50 persons who had collected stones near the village and the third on a jatka in which mail was being conveyed on the high road from Kalar to Bowringpēth on the night of the 4th July 1901, about 3 miles from Bowringpēth. This points to the fact that some bad characters have come to that part of the country. I must mention that I have received information that some Vaddans have worked their way thither from the Kadaru Pattu & the

Kadapa Dealer via Bagepalli
of your district. I have interviewed
the Kadapa Police Inspector and
have heard from him what
confirms my information. I
communicate this to you for
such action as you may
deem fit to take.

I have &c

Sd/- B. H. Venkata Narasinga
Offg: Inspector General
of Police in Mysore

---

No. 297/18

Office of the Inspector General
of Police Mysore

Bangalore 14 Jan 1901.

Copy ~~submitted~~ ~~forwarded~~ to the Secre-
tary to the Government of
Mysore Revenue and General
for information &c.

Department for information.

M. Venlatesan

Esq: Inspector General

of Police, in Mysore

1911

OFFICE OF THE DEWAN OF MYSORE
969
22-7-01.
100

SECTION Police
FILE No. 142 of 01
SERIAL No. 3

FROM
THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
OF POLICE IN MYSORE.

To
THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVT. OF MYSORE,
GENERAL AND REVENUE DEPTS.

But as it refers to
mail robbery it
is better to err by excess.
Please draft for
submission to
Dewan
23/7

Dated 19.
Despatched 20 July 1901
Received
General No. 449
No. 34
Enclosure No.

In Contn: of this Office
No. 277 & 13/7/01 reporting
that - postal bags were
founds in a "kalla"

22/7/01

A/
22.7.01
Srl

Submitted.
22.7.01

If this is considered a matter
of "political importance"
when the Commr. of Police
Vide cl no 2 in Secy. to Govt. 2/5/90 01
But this seems hardly the case.
22.7.01

MGCPB—5-3-01-1000

19

OFFICE OF THE
INSPECTOR GENERAL OF POLICE IN MYSORE.

No. 449/34 DATED Bangalore, 19th July 1901.

Enc.

FROM

THE INSPECTOR GENERAL OF POLICE IN MYSORE.

To

THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVT. OF MYSORE,
GENERAL AND REVENUE DEPARTMENTS.

SIR,

In continuation of my letter no. 277/17 of the 13th July 1901, reporting the robbery committed on the British mail cart on the night of the 4th July 1901 about 3 or 4 miles from Bowringpet, I beg to state that 8 more of the postal bags lost in the robbery were found intact in a "halla" three miles from the scene of crime.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

[illegible]

Inspector General of Police.

J 168 13

1547
2-8-01. 1901–1902 (5)

FROM

THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
OF POLICE IN MYSORE.

To

THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVT. OF MYSORE,
GENERAL AND REVENUE DEPTS.

SECTION— Police
FILE No. 14-788-01
SERIAL No — 4

Dated 31 July
Despatched 1 August } 1901
Received
General No. 782
No. 64
Enclosure No. 1

Forwarding Copy of letter No. 62 dt 21/7/01 from the Supdt of Police Kolar Gold Fields furnishing further particulars of the theft of mail bags at Bowringpet

Jml
2.8.01
H.C.
3-8-01

Submitted.

MCC
3/8/01.

OFFICE OF THE

INSPECTOR GENERAL OF POLICE IN MYSORE.

No. 782/64 DATED Bangalore 31st July 1901. 1 August

Enc. 1

FROM

THE INSPECTOR GENERAL OF POLICE IN MYSORE.

To

THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVT. OF MYSORE,
GENERAL AND REVENUE DEPARTMENTS.

SIR,

In continuation of this office letter No. 277/17 of the 13th July 1901, regarding the commission of a dacoity on the mail on the Kolar-Bowringpete Road, I beg to forward herewith Copy of letter No. 62 of the 21st. July 1901 from the Superintendent of Police of the Kolar Gold Fields furnishing further particulars of the said Mail dacoity.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient Servant

Offg. Inspector General of Police.

Quetodh

1901–1902.

GOVERNMENT OF MYSORE

From

The Superintendent of Police
Kolar Gold Fields.

To

The Inspector General of Police Mysore
thro' the Deputy Commissioner.

Dated 21st
Despatched 23rd } July 1901.

General No. 62.

Sir,

With reference to your No. 278/7 of the 13th instant forwarding for report copy of your letter No. 277/17 of the same date, to the Secretary to the Government of Mysore regarding the commission of mail dacoity on the Kolar-Bowringpet Road, I have the honor to report as follows:—

Appasamy Iyer, Sub-Postmaster of Bowringpet reported to the Police at Bowringpet

Bowringpet Kasba station at 10.30 p.m.
on 4.7.1901 that the mail jutka
running from Kolar to Bowringpet
with passengers was attacked by
a band of robbers at about 8.30
p.m. that night near the 32nd mile
stone on the road from Bowringpet
to Kolar and that the mail bags
were made away with. It appears
from the statement of the jutka
driver Khadumia and (1) Abdul
Hagib, (2) Sabjan and (3) Tulsaji
Row who were passengers, that the
robbers obstructed the road, beat
the jutka pony causing it to
plunge and break out of its
rotten harness and runaway.
The robbers then commenced beating
the

passengers who with the exception of Tukooji Row who allowed himself to be searched and robbed, also ran away. The offence appears to have taken 5 minutes in its commission after which the robbers made off through the Scrub to the north of the road. The Amildar at once took up the investigation of the case. I received information of the occurrence the following morning and visited the spot. Constables were sent out in all directions under the Superintendence of the Amildar to trace the dacoits and the property. No trace of the culprits was found. Nine members

members of a local Kurcher gang were known to have been absent from their houses on the night of the offence

The Jutka driver or any of the passengers could not give any description of the class of offenders who attacked them. Only 3 insured articles valued Rs 110 are missing and 5 of the bags were found untouched on a nullah three miles from the scene of offence.

Further enquiry in the case is proceeding.

I have &c,

(Sd) H. Macnaughton
District Superintendent of Police
lent to Mysore Kolar Gold Fields.

"Copy"

Offg. Inspector General of Police. 31/7/01

Dy. No. 1476
C. S. K. (Secret)
Confidential

128

13768

J 1658 19

1901-2 (1)

From

THE FIRST ASSISTANT TO THE
HON'BLE THE RESIDENT
IN MYSORE.

To Pol. 1674

THE DEWAN OF MYSORE.

SECTION Police

FILE No. 14 ~~88~~ 01

SERIAL No. 5

Dated 24 - 4 - 1892.

Despatched

Received

General No. 2276.
No.

Enclosure No.

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Regarding a highway robbery of mails took place on the night of the 4th instt on the Kolar - Bowringpet mail line in the Kolar Distt and requesting that, unless the liability of the State to pay compensation under the mail robbery rules, is admitted the Resident may be favoured with any explanation the Durbar see fit to make at an early date.

Subd with a draft for approval

[illegible] 29/4/92

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References to be marked.

Jpd

MGCPB—2,000—30-7-01.

No. 2276

The Resident's Office.

Bangalore, 24th April 1902.

Copy of the foregoing letter, with copies of its enclosures, is forwarded to the Dewan of Mysore with a request that, unless the liability, of the State to pay compensation under the mail robbery rules, is admitted the Resident may be favoured with any explanation the Darbar see fit to make at an early date. The amount claimed by the Post Master General is ₹.164-3-0.

2. A copy of the rules above referred to was sent to the Dewan of Mysore with this office letter No.1421-273 dated 31st August 1885.

3. Attention is invited to the report made by the drivers that although there was a Police outpost ¼ of a mile from the scene of the occurrence the Mysore Police there refused to render any assistance.

4. Copy of the enclosure to the Post Master General's letter, consisting of an extract of a communication from the Superintendent of Post Offices, Bangalore Division, is forwarded, but the Resident is not prepared to admit that any

sufficient

sufficient reason has been shown for patrolling the road in question with armed Police. Apparently the Dacoits were unarmed and had the State Police displayed even a small amount of energy the former might at any rate have been traced, even if they were not immediately captured.

Is there any rule requiring this?

5. Although the Dacoity occurred more than 9 months ago, no report appears as yet to have been made of this occurrence by the Darbar to the Resident.

L. Russell

First Assistant Resident
VS.

Enclosure 8 & 5



Copy of letter No.H.R.1-96/70532 dated the 31st March 1902, from the Postmaster General, Madras, to the Resident in Mysore.

---

I have the honour to bring to your notice that a highway robbery of mails took place on the night of the 4th July 1901 on the Kolar-Bowringpet mail line in the Kolar district.

2. The facts of the case are as follows:-

On the date in question the mails for Kolar left Bowringpet at 6-30 P.M. and after the mail jutka had travelled 8 miles it was stopped by a gang of 20 robbers who struck down the driver, let loose the pony, beat the passengers and carried away the mail bags eighteen in number. The drivers, however, hastened to a Police shed which was 2 furlongs off, but was disappointed to learn that the constable there could afford no help being unarmed. Intimation of the robbery was conveyed to the Police Officers at Bowringpet who forthwith repaired to the scene of occurrence. Five of the bags were recovered in tact while the remaining thirteen were found to have been cut open and the contents scattered about in a more or less damaged condition. The case is under investigation by the Police.

3. In this connection I beg to invite your attention

to

to the order of the Government of India quoted on the margin

Govt. of India Foreign Deptt. Resolution No.2495-1 dated 29th July 1885.

and to request with reference thereto that you will be so good as to move the Mysore Darbar to pay to the Post Office the sum of ₹164-3-0 representing the value of the mails lost in the robbery.

4. A statement giving the particulars of parcels and other articles of value taken and destroyed by the robbers is enclosed. I also beg to append for your information an extract from a communication No.162-c dated 9-7-01, from the Divisional Superintendent of Post Offices to my address regarding the inadequacy of the local police arrangements.

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41) 24

Extract from a communication No.162-C, dated 9-7-01 from the Superintendent of Post Offices, Bangalore Division, to the Post Master General, Madras.

---

The local police authorities have I believe repeatedly represented the utter uselessness of placing Police Constables and Village Talayaries to patrol the road, unarmed, and I am confident that they will appreciate any representation you may feel disposed to make to the Mysore Darbar, through the Resident in Mysore, with the object of more businesslike police arrangements being made.

---

Statement giving particulars of the parcels and Exhibits
other articles of value taken and destroyed by the dacoits in the highway robbery of mails that took place on the night of the 4th July 1901, on the Kolar-Bowringpet mail line in the Kolar District.

| Serial No. | No. and description of the article with date of posting | Office of posting | Contents | Value Rs. as. p | Remarks. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | Insured parcel No. 771 dy 4-7-01. | Chintamani | Jewels. | 36-8-0 | The parcel was insured for Rs. 40/- but one of the jewels enclosed value Rs. 3-8- was recovered |
| 2. | —do— No. 772 dy 4-7-01 | —do— | —do— | 20-0-0 | |
| 3. | —do— No. 774 dy 4-7-01 | —do— | —do— | 50-0-0 | |
| 4. | V.P. parcel No. 572 dated 4-7-01 | —do— | a ball of snuff | 0-15-0 | |
| 5 | Regd. letter No. 164 dy 4-7-01 | —do— | Currency notes | 10-0-0 | |
| 6. | Regd. letter No. 5 dy. do | Mulbagal | —do— | 30-0-0 | |
| 7. | Parcel No. 988 dy. do | Hassan | clothes. | 16-8-0 | |
| 8. | Unpaid articles. | Local | ——— | 0-4-0 | |
| | | | Total. | 164-3-0 | |

Copies

K.S. Tirumalai Aiyangar

Registrar.

15.

Draft as per order for file

To.

The Inspector General of Police in Mysore

SECTION Police
FILE No. 14 & 01
SERIAL No. 6

Dated 1.5.02

No 1755 6 / J 1584 Ecn 2

Sir,

In inviting your attention to correspondence ending with your letter No 752/64 dated 31st July 1901, regarding the mail dacoity that took place near Bowringpet on the night of the 4th July 1901, I have the honour to forward herewith copy of letter No H.R. 1-96/70532 dated the 31st March 1902 from the Post Master General, Madras,

Madras, to the Honble the Resident in Mysore, and to enclosures, on the above subject, and to request that you will be so good as to submit at a very early date, a further detailed report regarding the desirability and the adequacy of the local police arrangements referred to in the Post-Master General's letter

I have etc

30/4/02

for Secretary
29/4/02

2

OFFICE OF THE ... DIVISIONAL ...
Regd. No. 45
1 JUL 1902
1962 / 1902-3
96

FROM

THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
OF POLICE IN MYSORE.

To

THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVT. OF MYSORE,
GENERAL AND REVENUE DEPTS.

SECTION Police
FILE No. 1478/01
SERIAL No. 10

Dated 2nd
Despatched July 1902
Received
General No. 33
No. 3
Enclosure No 2

Submitting for information of Government a detailed report regarding the Mail Dacoity near Bowringpet

MGCPE—5-3-01-1000

OFFICE OF THE

INSPECTOR GENERAL OF POLICE IN MYSORE.

No. 33/3 Dated Bangalore 2nd July 1902

Enc. 2

From

B. K. Venkatanarasaiah Esq,

Offg INSPECTOR GENERAL OF POLICE IN MYSORE.

To

L. Anantaseemy Rao Esq. B.A.

SECRETARY TO THE GOVT. OF MYSORE,

in the GENERAL AND REVENUE DEPARTMENTS.

Sir,

Adverting to your letter no. (A.B) 17-56/J.1584 of the 1st April 1902, forwarding copy of letter no. H. R 1-96/705 32 of the 31st March 1902 from the Post Master General of Madras to the Honorable the Resident in Mysore, and of its enclosure in re Mail dacoity that took place near Bowringpet on the night of the 4th July 1901, and requesting the submission of a detailed report regarding the same, I beg

to submit copy of the Kolar Deputy-Commissioner's letter no. C. No 2618 of the 26th June 1902 and copy of letter no. 343 of the 23rd June 1902 from the Superintendent of Police of the Kolar Gold Fields, detailing the dacoity referred to and suggesting certain remedial measures. It is within the power of the Deputy Commissioner himself to adopt the measures proposed. - I have informed accordingly.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

[signature]

Offg. Inspector General of Police

CA

Encl to 8 C.O. 31

Office of the Deputy Commissioner,
Kolar District.

No: C. 2618
Encl. No: 2.

Dated 26th June 1902.

12/a

From

F. C. Carr Esq,
Deputy Commissioner, Kolar District.

To,

B. K. Venkataramadasengar Esq,
Inspector General of Police in Mysore.

Sir,

With reference to your endorsement No: 5393/306 dated 29th May 1902 on your letter to the Secretary to the Government, of the same date, I have the honor to forward herewith for your information copies of two letters dated respectively 23rd and 25th June 1902, from the District Superintendent of Police, Kolar Gold Fields. The first of these deals exhaustively with the first mail dacoity which occurred in July 1901, and the second, more or less reiterates the suggestions and proposals conveyed in the first letter, regarding the steps which the Superintendent of Police considers are most likely to prevent a recurrence of such crimes in the future. I have requested the Superintendent to send in a more detailed report of the actual crime than that already submitted to you. —

2. It is a matter of increasing astonishment to me that the mail gutka should have been twice attacked and robbed at almost the same place viz: within 3 or 4 miles of Bowringpet on the Kolar High road. —

In neither instance did the robbers gain any appreciable booty; in the 2nd case only two registered letters and ten rupees in cash, and in the first, 3 insured parcels of the aggregate value of Rs 110/. —

3. As pointed out by the District Superintendent of Police this portion of the road is exceptionally well patrolled and heavily policed, and is generally more frequented than many other high roads in the Province. —

Besides this, since the occurrence of the first dacoity a police constable has invariably accompanied the mail gutka from Kolar to Bowringpet. —

4 These precautions appear to me sufficient to meet ordinary circumstances But in such an exceptional instance as this where the criminals appear to have gained confidence and courage beyond the ordinary, I consider exceptional steps must be taken, and I would strongly recommend that (1) the mail gutka from Kolar to Bowringpet should leave the former place two hours earlier than at present, (2) that the Police patrolling the road should be given fire-arms (3) that the constable travelling in the mail gutka should be armed with a musket, with strict orders to use it when necessary. —

5. From the nature of the crime, and its

occurrence

occurrence in almost the same place as last year's case, added to the fact that other dacoities of much the same nature are reported to have been committed some years ago near the same place, I am led to think that persons living in the vicinity have been the instigators, if not the actual perpetrators, of these crimes. —

The local police are using their best endeavours to trace the criminals, and I trust that their efforts in this second case may result in a successful issue. —

I have &c,

Sd/ J. E. C. Carr
Deputy Commissioner
Kolar District.

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No: 343
Enc. 1. file.

Office of the District Superintendent of Police,
Kolar Gold Fields,
Dated Champion Reefs, 23rd June 1902.

From. P. B. Thomas Esq,
Dt. Superintendent of Police,
Kolar Gold Field.

To. J. E. C. Carr Esq,
Deputy Commissioner, Kolar District.

Sir.

With reference to the enclosed papers forwarded to me by you concerning the mail-dacoity which occurred in July 1901, between Bowringpet and Kolar, I have the honor to report

report as follows: —

2. Appasami Iyer, Sub Post-master of Bowringpet, reported to the Police at Bowringpet Station at 10.30 P.M. on 4.7.01 that the mail jutka running from Kolar to Bowringpet with passengers was attacked by a gang of robbers at about 8.30 P.M. that night near the 3rd. mile stone on the road from Bowringpet to Kolar and that the mail bags were carried away. —

3. The mail in question was despatched as usual by mail jutka at 6.30 P.M. from Kolar. At the 3rd mile-stone from Bowringpet, the driver was suddenly stopped by a gang of men (about 20 in number) who assaulted him and 2 passengers after taking the pony out of the jutka and stole the mail bags as well as the passengers' property. —

4. P.C. Nos 321 Yallaga and 468 Munisamy of Bowringpet Station were on the Kolar High road Beat on the night of occurrence. The former stopped at the 1st mile Gokkad and the latter went further and met P.C. No: 333 Viswanatham of the Anigenahalli out-post between the 2nd and 3rd Gokkads and came back to the 2nd Gokkad and remained there with the village Police. P.C. No: 333 went back and stopped in the 3rd Gokkad. —

Note These 3 Gokkads are all within 4 miles of Bowringpet. —

5. About 8.30 P.M. the mail jutka from Kolar

came

came to the 3rd Ookkad, O.C. No: 333 who was then in the Ookkad stopped the driver and remonstrated with him for not having a light in the jutka but let him proceed as he said he was late. A little while after this, the driver and 2 Muhammadan passengers running back and told him that they had been attacked by robbers. O.C. No: 333 at once sent one of the Thoties to Ankondahalli (close by) to bring help and proceeded to the scene of occurrence. — By the time persons from Ankondahalli and the P.C. reached the place, the robbers had made away with the mail bags and the property

6. Shortly after this, information was sent to Bowringpet by a jutka, which happened to come from Kolar. — After this, O.C. Nos 468 and 321 who were in the 2nd and 1st Ookkads respectively came to the spot with 2 Thoties. O.C. No. 411, Krishnasamy Iyengar from Kasaba also went to the spot. — They all began a search in the neighbourhood, but to no purpose. O.C. No: 333 to whom the drivers and the passengers first reported the occurrence at the 3rd Ookkad had no arms with him. — OC No: 468 of the 2nd Ookkad had a police Latta (Stick) and his 2 Thoties a lance each. —

Min. by

7. O.C. No: 333 "Viswanathan could have raised an alarm with his Thoties and chased the robbers without waiting for help

help from the village, as the scene of the occurrence was very near his Ookkad. The Bowringpet Jemedar and some other Constables repaired to the spot on the same night.—

8. The Relay Amildar who took up investigation of the case and Mr. Bairnwearing the then District Superintendent of Police also visited the scene of the occurrence. On the next day the jutka pony was discovered— grazing in the adjoining jungle. On the 6th the police came upon a portion of the mail bags that had been carried off.

These bags were all cut-open and the contents were found lying about in a damaged state. Later on the five remaining bags were found intact. No clue as to the perpetrators had been obtained up to date. The case is still under police enquiry.

9. The dacoity is supposed to have been committed by some wandering gang and its detection is now hopeless. —

10. It is not the case that the police arrangements on the road were defective. On the other hand this particular piece of road (which has a bad name for crime) is probably as well policed as any mofussil road in Southern India. There were 3 police Constables and six village Tholies or Talaries all

all armed with either Cattas or Lances on the 4 miles of road nearest to Bowringhet. These men were stationed at 3 Bokkads but were also moving about between Bokkad and Bokkad. ——

10. A crime such as this dacoity would only occupy a very few minutes. If the dacoits were Koravers, as is probable, they would be miles away from the scene of crime long before morning. They would also watch the police and Patrols and would be fully aware of the exact locality of these men before waylaying the Jutka and would lay their plans accordingly. ——

11. It would be impossible, for many reasons, to police this bit of road more heavily. The only radical remedy for the occurrence of gang crime of this nature is the vigorous hunting down of wandering gangs by the police, and the rigorous application of the security sections of the Criminal Procedure Code by the Magistracy. The watching of gangs is not neglected by the police so far as I can judge, but they do not make enough use of the security sections.

12. I have seen the Superintendent of Post

Offices

officers and have made myself acquainted with the locality where the dacoity occurred. Since its occurrence a police constable has always travelled in the gutka all the way from Kolar to Bowringpet - but even this measure has not been sufficient to prevent a subsequent dacoity of exactly the same nature, a short time ago. —

13. The remedies which suggest themselves to me against the recurrence of similar dacoities are: —

(1) To arm the police on this road and in the gutka with fire arms.

(2) To patrol the road with Silladar Cavalry.

(3) To despatch the mails from Kolar, 2 hours earlier than at present - in order that they may reach Bowringpet before 7 P.M. —

With regard to (1) I think it would be a good thing to arm the police on duty at the Cockads and I will — arrange for this to be done.

I do not think it would be of much use to arm the constables inside the gutka. He would not have room to use a rifle when packed away inside the gutka with

with mail bags and passengers. It has been suggested that he might be armed with a revolver, but I consider this to be out of the question. A revolver is a dangerous weapon to handle and not one police constable in five hundred could be trusted to handle one with either safety or effect, under the circumstances attending an attack on a mail gutka in the dark. —

With regard to (2), I do not think that such a patrol is necessary. A gang waiting to waylay a gutka would make themselves aware of the locality of a patrol and would take care to avoid them when making their attack on the gutka. Such a patrol would be of no use in following up dacoits on a dark night across rough country and would really be of no more use than a foot-patrol such as exists already. With regard to (3), I should consider that such a measure, if it can be carried out, would effectually stop all mail dacoities on this piece of road. A gang would be very unlikely to commit such a crime as this in day-light as their presence would be noticed, and they could be easily followed

I have &c.

(Sd) Percy B. Thomas.
Dt Superintendent of Police
Kolar Gold Fields

« Copy

"Copy"

/sd/ H. C. Carr

Deputy Commissioner,

Kolar District.

"Copies"

Offg. Inspector General of

2-7-02

Draft

No 217 J.68 Encl. 9/7/02.

To

The First Asst. to the Resident

in Mysore.

Sir,

Submitted to the Dewan
9/7/02

SECTION Police
FILE No. 4228-01
SER. No. 12

Adverting to para 5 of your ~~letter~~ Memo. No.2276 dated the 24th April 1902 on the subject of a robbery of mails that took place on the night of the 4th July 1901 on the Kolar-Bowringpet road, I am directed to state that the occurrence was not reported under the impression that it did not fall under the description of events required to be reported in your letter No.5663--422-97 dated the 1st November 1900. ~~The Dar-~~ bar will, however, cause reports of such occurrences to be submitted in ~~future.~~

2. As regards payment of the compensation claimed by the Postmaster-General, Madras, under the mail robbery rules, I am to point out that, under the assurance given by the British Government to the Darbar at the time of the transfer of the local Anche to the Indian Postal Department, the rules in question are not to be enforced against the Mysore State so long as the Police of Mysore remain as efficient and well managed as they were at that time.---

Vide p. 12 of the accompanying printed compilation. I have not been able to refer to the subsequent correspondence as they are not laid before the Dewan.

vide demi-official letter of the 12th November 1887 addressed to the late Dewan by the then Resident General Sir H,N.D.Prendergast, copy of which is enclosed for ready reference. The Hon'ble the present Resident is not unaware that considerable improvements have been effected since then, and especially during the last two years, as regards the number, quality, and organisation of the Police Force of the Kolar Gold Fields, over and above that of the State Police generally; and that there is no reason to think that the Police of Mysore, or of the Gold Fields in particular, are not at the present time at least as efficient and well-managed as they were admittedly were in the year 1887.

3. Turning to the particular occurrence under advertance, I am to state that the facts as reported by the Police Superintendent of the Kolar Gold Fields are as follows:

( Here transcribe paras 3, 4, 5,and 6 of the Police Supdt's letter No.343 d/23rd June 1902.)

The Bowringpet Jemadar and some other constables repaired to the spot on the same night; and the investigation of the case was taken up by the Taluk Amildar and the then Superintendent, Mr Mainwaring. The

mail bags were recovered, but all except five were cut open and the contents found lying about in a damaged state. The dacoity is supposed to have been committed by some wandering gang; but no clue to its perpetrators has been obtained, and its detection is now reported to be hopeless.

4. As regards the police arrangements on the road in question, I am directed to state that they were not in any way defective: on the contrary, this particular bit of road is probably as well policed as any mofussil road in Southern India. There were three Police Constables and six village Toties or Talaries, all armed with either lattas or lances, on the four miles of road nearest to Bowringpet. These men were stationed at three Ukkads, but were also moving about between Ukkad and Ukkad.

Again, a crime such as this dacoity would only occupy a very few minutes. If the dacoits were Koravars, as is probable, they would be miles away from the scene of crime long before morning. They would also watch the Police and Talaries, and would be fully aware of the exact locality of these men before waylaying the jutka, and would lay their plans accordingly.

5. Since the occurrence in question, a Police Constable has always travelled in the Mail jutka all the way from Kolar to Bowringpet; but even this measure has not been sufficient to prevent a subsequent dacoity of exactly the same nature on the 25th May last, a report of which has been already made in my letter No.18789--J.1726 dated the 3rd June 1902. The Darbar are therefore arranging to arm the ~~pY~~ Police on duty at the Ukkads on this road with fire-arms, as also the constable travelling in the Mail jutka. At the same time, I am to suggest for ~~the~~ the consideration of the Postal Department ~~t~~ whether the mails from Kolar could not be arranged to leave that place two hours earlier than at present in order that they may reach Bowringpet before 7 P.M. Such a measure, if it can be carried out, would effectually stop all mail dacoities on this piece of road: a gang would be very unlikely to commit such a crime as this in daylight as their presence would be noticed and they could be easily followed.

I have etc. etc.

Secretary.

Read

Correspondence endorsed
Letter No 33 dy the 2d Augt 51 or-
from the Inspector General Police
forwarding the report of the Police
Subdiv. of the Kolarfields
on the ~~the~~ mail dacoity that
took place near Bowringpett
on the night of the 4th Augt 1951.

SECTION Police
FILE No. 14/8901
SERIAL No. 13

Order thereon. 718. 8/51 2/8/51
Govt agree that the
Offg Inspector General has
merely to this date
commented on the report of the Police
Subdiv in a case of this
important nature

2. The Govt agree with the
Depty Commr and the Police Superin-
tendent as to the desirability
of arming the police on duty
at the Village on the Kolar-
Bowringpett road with fire-arms
This should be arranged for
at once. It is also advisable
to arm the constable here

R.V. the mail matter in a similar manner.

3. The suggestion that the mails from Nias should leave that place 2 hours earlier than at present so as to reach Bonjol before dark ~~seems~~ will be brought to the notice of the Postal authorities for consideration when the Resident

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

Sent to the Dewan
[illegible]
9/7/02

2 Wks. earlier.

To. The I. G. of Police no 718/309 of. 15.7.02.

Expresses Govt's regret over the report published in 8C10. without any comment or opinion thereon, and agrees with the Dy Comm & the Supt. Police on Duty. and intimates that the Insp. of 2 hrs earlier start of the mail will be brought to the notice of the Postal authorities.

M.K. Barnes

Communicated